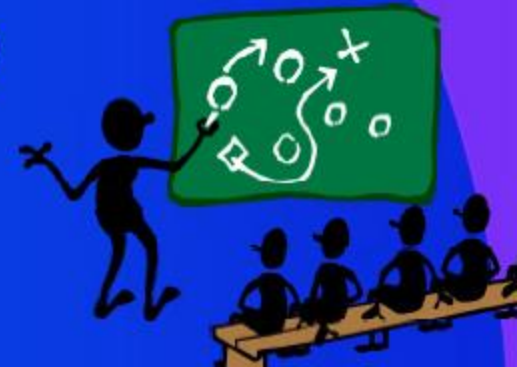




# **Introduction to Operations Security**

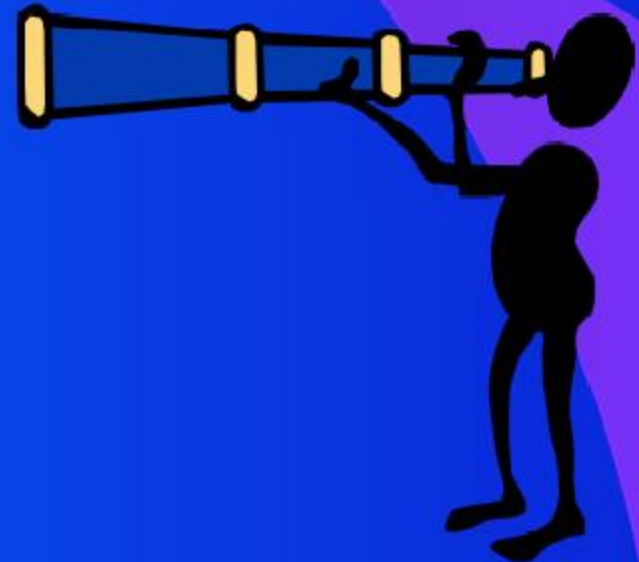
# Introduction

- Operations Security (OPSEC)
- An information protection mindset
- Answers the questions:
  - Who are the bad guys?
  - What do they want from me (us)?
  - How do they get it?
  - How can you help stop them?



# Who are the bad guys?

- Enemies
- Competitors
- Terrorists
- Criminals
- Insiders





# What do they want from us?

## “Critical Information”

Information the **adversary** needs to  
*prevent* our success.



Information **we** must  
protect to *ensure* success.



# Critical Information

- Our limitations
- Specific operations plans
  - Who, what, when, where, how
- Our personnel & their families
- Our security process



How do they get it?

I have no need for spies.  
I have *The Times*.

—*Nicholas I Pavlovich*  
*Tsar of Imperial Russia*  
*1825 to 1855*





# How do they get it?

- We give it to them! (“Vulnerabilities”)
  - Conversations in public areas
  - Using cell phones for business
  - Web pages
  - Email
  - Social Networking



# How do they get it?

- Communications intercept
- Social Engineering
- Internet
- Elicitation
- Espionage



Illegal methods are OK with bad guys !!!



# How can you help stop them?

- “Countermeasures”
  - Protected communications
  - Web page policies
  - Be alert
  - Be suspicious
  - Be aware



# Countermeasures

- Consider the threat when you:
  - Use the phone
  - Answer stranger's questions
  - Discuss work in public places
  - Engage in social networking
- Practice good security
- Shred all paper



# Countermeasures

Anything that effectively negates or reduces an adversary's ability to exploit us.



Would you mail it to this man?

If the answer is "no", DON'T GIVE IT AWAY IN OPEN SOURCES!!!



# Practice OPSEC

## Think Like the Wolf

DES OPSEC OFFICER

Michael Chesbro

253-966-7303

